

## Auto crash: 10 killed in Delta

●N50m property razed

BY GODWIN OGHRE

**S**APELE—TEN persons, including a Navy personnel and a soldier, lost their lives, yesterday, in a Delta Line 18-seater bus that left Sapele for Warri, Delta State, and crashed into a stationary trailer near Adeje on Warri-Sapele expressway.

Similarly, an early morning inferno at Hausa/Itsekiri Road part of Sapele market, destroyed goods and property worth over N50 million.

The fire consumed a block of stores, a printing press and residential buildings.

It was gathered that the driver of the ill-fated bus was allegedly on top speed and crashed into the trailer, due to poor visibility as a result of fog in the early hours of the day.

The driver of the state-owned transport company escaped death while 10 passengers were confirmed dead.

At press time four victims of the crash, said to have regained consciousness, were under intensive care at the Central Hospital, Sapele.

The fire at Sapele market, the source of which is yet to

be ascertained at press time, engulfed a block of stores, a printing press, a business centre and residential houses.

The early morning fire also reduced to rubble, provision stores, a carpenter workshop and a building materials shop. A team of state fire service per-

sonnel and that of Power Holding Company of Nigeria, which arrived over three hours later, only managed to prevent the fire from spreading to neighbouring buildings.

Lamenting the huge loss suffered in the inferno, Proprietor of Olumayowa Printing and

Publishing Company Press, Mr Olumayowa, said he was shocked by the discovery of his press in rubbles.

Transition Committee Chairman of Sapele Local Government Area, Mr Julius Egbedi, said the inferno was unfortunate, adding that he just returned from an official trip to Asaba, when he heard of the ugly incident.



**CONDOLENCE:** Governor Adams Oshiomhole of Edo State (left) with Mrs. Amina Elizabeth Yakowa, widow of Mr. Patrick Yakowa, the late governor of Kaduna State who died in last weekend's helicopter crash.

## SURE-P can't be hijacked by politicians— FG

BY SIMON  
EBEGBULEM

**B**ENIN—THE Federal Government has vowed to ensure

that the Subsidy Re-investment and Empowerment Programme, SURE-P, was not hijacked by politicians.

Speaking, yesterday, during the flag-off ceremony of the Community Services/

ments directly and not through any politician.

Recalling that the programme was introduced due to the recent partial removal of subsidy on petroleum products, with a view to mitigating

He said: "This is to complement the transformation agenda of the Federal Government's Vision 20:20-20, which sets the target for Nigeria becoming one of the top 20 economies in the world by